

SEP 20 2004

001/013

**MICHAELSON & ASSOCIATES**

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**Date:** September 20, 2004**Number of pages,  
including cover sheet:** 13**To:** Examiner Christine Ng  
US Patent and Trademark Office  
GAU 2663**Phone:**  
**Fax:** 703-872-9306**From:** Peter L. Michaelson, Esq.  
Michaelson & Associates**Phone:** (732) 530-6671  
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**MESSAGE:** Applicants: **Simon P. VALENTINE, Christopher R. LINZELL, Lee A. WALKER**  
Atty. Doc.: **3Com-81/RCE(3022.WDS.US.RCE)**  
Serial No.: **09/662,533** Filed: **September 15, 2000**  
Group Art Unit: **2663**  
Examiner: **Christine Ng** Confirmation No.: **1915**  
Title: **EFFICIENT METHOD OF DEDUCING NETWORK TOPOLOGY  
INCLUDING ENDSTATIONS**

Attached for filing please find the following:

1. "no fee" Transmittal Letter (in duplicate); and
2. Preliminary Amendment.

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PATENT APPLICATION

Applicants: Simon P. VALENTINE, Christopher R. LINZELL,  
Lee A. WALKER

Atty. Doc.: 3Com-81/RCE(3022.WDS.US.RCE)

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Filed: September 15, 2000

Group Art Unit: 2663

Examiner: Christine Ng

Confirmation No.: 1915

Title: EFFICIENT METHOD OF DEDUCING NETWORK TOPOLOGY  
INCLUDING ENDSTATIONS

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

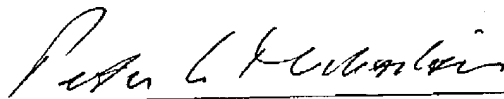
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In the event any such fee is due for this preliminary amendment, kindly charge that fee to my deposit account number 13-3083. To facilitate that charge, a duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

September 20, 2004

  
Peter L. Michaelson, Attorney  
Reg. No. 30,090  
Customer No. 007265  
(732) 530-6671

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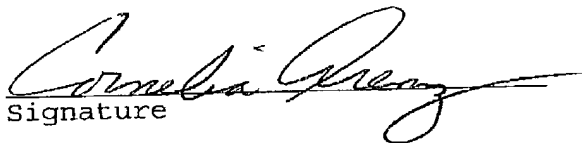
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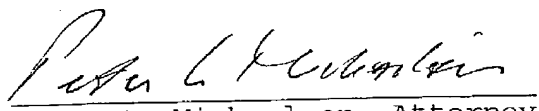
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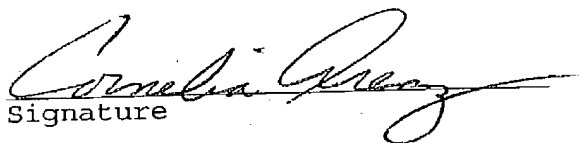
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S I R:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Further to the pre-examination interview held with the Examiner on September 1, 2004 and in conjunction with the Request for Continued Examination filed August 11, 2004, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.

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